



**State Senator  
Kirk Watson  
District 14**

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*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

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## **More flood gauges coming to Colorado River in Bastrop County**

Major flooding along the Colorado River in Bastrop County has demonstrated once again the dire need for additional flood gauges as well as other early warning systems to ensure that people can get out of harm's way.

Sen. Kirk Watson, working and consulting with Bastrop County Judge Paul Pape, has received assurances from Phil Wilson, general manager of the Lower Colorado River Authority, that additional gauges and other equipment will be installed along the Colorado River downstream of Austin and through Bastrop County.

"A devastating flood can develop incredibly quickly and we owe it to the residents of Bastrop County to give them every available tool to avoid a loss of life and property," Sen. Watson said. "I'm thankful that the LCRA responded so quickly to my requests and is helping provide us additional tools."

In the wake of the Memorial Day floods this year, Sen. Watson was able to secure about \$3 million per year to help communities prepare for flooding through House Bill 6.

"Gov. Greg Abbott and Senate Finance Chairwoman Jane Nelson were instrumental to helping me find a way to get that funding so late in the legislative session. That investment is long overdue and could potentially be used for the type of early warning systems needed throughout the state," Sen. Watson said.

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